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POPE URGES PRESIDENT VIDELA TO SEEK ACCORD WITH CHILE

PY120242Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0208 GMT 12 Dec 78 PY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 11 Dec (AFP)--Pope John Paul II today sent a message to the president of Argentina, Gen Jorge Rafael Videla, encouraging him to continue his efforts to reach a peaceful agreement with Chile on the border dispute in the Beagle Channel. The papal message reflects his state of mind less than 24 hours before the meeting here of the foreign ministers of the two countries to designate a mediator in the conflict. The message was disclosed 1 day after the arrival of Cardinal Raul Primatesta, president of the Argentine Episcopal Conference, at the Vatican. Observers linked his visit to the Vatican with a possible intervention by the pope in this matter.

ARGENTINE, CHILEAN FOREIGN MINISTERS MEET IN BUENOS AIRES

Foreign Ministry Communique

PY130104Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0050 GMT 13 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 13 Dec (NA)--The Argentine Foreign Ministry reported some minutes ago that the talks between Ministers Carlos Washington Pastor and Hernan Cubillos are developing within the atmosphere of traditional friendship between the two nations. Here is the text of the communique:

"With regard to the talks held today between the foreign ministers of Argentina and Chile, the Argentine Foreign Ministry reported late this afternoon that the talks are being held within the atmosphere of traditional friendship between the two nations."

Information Secretariat Press Release

PY130106Y Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0055 GMT 13 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Dec (NA)--While the Argentine Foreign Ministry was releasing its brief communique on the development of the negotiations with Chile, the Presidential Public Information Secretariat released the following text signed by the press director general:

"It is hereby reported that the military committee held a meeting at government house tonight in order to receive the foreign minister's report on the development of the negotiations. The Foreign Ministry will release a communique on the results of the meeting between the two foreign ministers."

CLARIN INTERVIEWS MILITARY JUNTA MEMBER

PY121729Y Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 9 Dec 78 p 4,5 PY

[CLARIN undated exclusive interview with the Argentine Navy commander, Adm Armando Lambruschini, in Buenos Aires]

[Excerpts] [Question] National officials have stated that the need for a political plan is a first priority. In this regard, it has been learned that the task of "harmonization" will end soon. Once the plan is approved, when will it go into effect? How is it going to be applied?

[Answer] As a member of the military junta, I believe it is premature to speak of "a political plan." The armed forces are studying and harmonizing--at the appropriate levels--three projects. These are the projects prepared by the army, the navy and the air force which will be combined into one project which may be called the "political basis for the process of national reorganization."

This document, as it is being written, relys on ideas from various sectors of the nation, which after thorough study serve to improve the project and to clarify concepts. Once the harmonization of the document has ended and the document has been approved, it will be promulgated by the military junta.

[Question] Various sectors of the nation have expressed their desire for the normalization of unions and business organizations. Do you believe that before this process is implemented an overall political plan should be defined; or, on the contrary, do you support normalization of unions through the approval of a law for professional associations or regulations for business organizations?

[Answer] The normalization of unions, business organizations and political activities are closely related. The military junta will issue explicit legal regulations for adequate union, business and political activity.

I believe that approval of the law for professional associations is a priority. I must emphasize that the new legislation under study for the three sectors has the basic objective of selecting leaders through normal procedures because the idea is to select leaders having genuine representation. In sum, the armed forces are trying to implement an overall reorganization so that all civilian sectors are able to exercise their rights and obligations freely within their own organizations and without interfering with others.

[Question] The current economic situation is characterized by considerable inflation, recession, low consumption and a constant deterioration in the buying power of large sectors of the population. How would you define this situation after more than 32 months of application of the current economic program?

[Answer] The question emphasizes the negative and temporary aspects of the economic process and minimizes the achievements of the reorganization process. It should be pointed out that the armed forces adopted an economic policy, and that precise objectives have been fixed in accordance with this policy. There are people, with or without reason, who loudly criticize the economic situation, and I believe arbitrarily equate the economic policy with the negative results taking place in some sectors of the economy. Criticism can be constructive, and we accept it, but there are also criticisms from impatient people and from the enemies of the process. We should be thorough in analyzing criticism, but we should have no doubt about the essential essence of the economic policy. If we doubt we would again expose the country to chaos and rampant speculation.

We are concerned about inflation, the deterioration of the real salary, and the problems of productive activity. We must realize that the time necessary for the economic recovery cannot be extended beyond the reasonable time permitted by political conditions; otherwise, the time taken for economic recovery will exhaust the time allowed for political tolerance, and we will be running the risk of confronting each other as in the past. The military junta cannot run a race in vain against the clock.

I would also like to point out that the great problems inherited by the armed forces when it assumed power 3 years ago cannot be resolved without time and sacrifice; and also, not much can be achieved with critics who do not provide any solutions. [paragraph continues]

To turn back now would be an irresponsible attitude. There are errors which have not been corrected on time, but this does not mean that they cannot be corrected. I believe there are economic sectors which live from speculation. These are the false allies of the process, the usual opportunists, but these alleged allies are a minority and will be defeated by reality.

[Question] Do you believe there is a need to make some readjustments in Argentine foreign policy?

[Answer] Argentine foreign policy is based on permanent objectives, but it does not disregard alternatives. Argentina is within the framework of the Western world, and it recognizes its Latin American identity. But it does not turn its back on other parts of the world because today no country or region can live in isolation.

Argentina, above anything else, must exploit to the maximum its cultural, economic and technological potential.

The best foreign policy is that which reflects the international influence the country will gain through its internal expansion. We can sum up this idea in one phrase: Grow internally first; gain international importance later.

[Question] What is the present situation of our negotiations with Chile?

[Answer] Argentina has shown that it wishes to find a reasonable solution in the conflict with Chile. I believe, however, that despite our intentions, our conflicting positions have altered the meaning of these negotiations. Dialog is not synonymous with delay. Therefore, since the moment of reconciliation was wasted in disagreement, our proposals must be peremptory. Argentina clearly maintains that Argentina must stay in the Atlantic and Chile in the Pacific. And regarding this issue there is no possible negotiation. We now have the possibility of the mediation of a friendly country, and we hope that previous to this we will be able to bring our positions closer, so that the mediator will not fail. Since the country from which we are seeking assistance is not a formal mediation court, and since we do not want to impose on its diplomatic good will, we should assist its mediation by clearly presenting our previously discussed points of disagreement.

[Question] On the Itaipu-Corpus question, the mood swings from optimism to pessimism all too easily. What is your opinion on this question?

[Answer] The feeling of optimism or pessimism has nothing to do with the project itself. The important thing is the determination to carry it out, regardless of circumstances. The navy supports Corpus and the other projects which are basic to the country's overall development. Argentina only wants a just balance among the interests at stake, a balance which will benefit the development of the region. This is to say that we do not seek any advantage in particular to the detriment of other countries, but we will reject proposals which harm our interests or upset the regional balance.

[Question] How do you view relations with the United States?

[Answer] Relations with the U.S. Government have always been normal, and as for the navy in particular, they have been the best.

[Question] To what extent will the Humphrey-Kennedy amendment affect the Argentine Navy's equipment needs?

[Answer] The navy deplores the Humphrey-Kennedy amendment, which was conceived as a political sanction directed at Argentine military institutions which may be forced into using weapons to defend national integrity, freedom and other principles which, I am sure, are dear to U.S. senators also. In a strictly professional sense, the amendment does not affect to a critical degree the navy's equipment needs.

FORMER NAVY COMMANDER UNINJURED IN MACHINEGUN ATTACK

PY121156Y Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1030 GMT 12 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Early last night, a firearms attack was carried out against the former commander of the navy, Adm Emilio Eduardo Massera (ret), when he was in an office in the downtown section of this capital. The press office of the navy command released the following communique. At approximately 2040, a machinegun burst was fired from a building next to the office where Adm Emilio Eduardo Massera (ret) was staying. The attack was immediately repelled. The admiral was not hurt in the attack."

ATOMIC ENERGY CHIEF REPORTS ON VIENNA MEETING

PY120232Y Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 11 Dec 78 p 5 PY

[Excerpts] Rear Adm Carlos Castro Madero, president of the National Atomic Energy Commission [CNEA], has said that at the plenary session of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] held in Vienna, Austria, Argentina maintained its position about the "RIGHT OF THE COUNTRIES TO ACCEDE TO NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES," with safeguards on "misusing that technology."

He made this statement yesterday at Ezeiza International Airport on his return from Vienna. He added: "AT THE PLENARY MEETING ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FUEL CYCLE, A STUDY WAS MADE AT THE SUGGESTION OF THE UNITED STATES. THIS STUDY WAS FIRMED UP IN THE BEGINNING OF OCTOBER AND THE RESULTS ACHIEVED SO FAR WERE GIVEN AT THE MEETING."

He stated that "the subject of heavy water was not discussed at this first meeting, although there is a chapter referring to the availability of heavy water for those countries which may want it."

He finally stated that "ALL THE RESULTS OF THE STUDIES MADE TO DATE WERE RELEASED AT THIS MEETING, AND THAT THE SECOND PLENARY SESSION WILL BE HELD IN FEBRUARY 1978 TO SEE THE RESULTS AND DEVELOPMENT OF THESE STUDIES."

BRIEFS

CHILEAN TOURIST MATERIAL SEIZED--San Juan, 4 Dec (AFP)--Local officials have reported that Chilean tourist literature, which included maps showing territories in dispute with Argentina as belonging to Chile, was seized today. The officials indicated that the Islands of Nueva, Picton and Lennox in the Beagle Channel appeared on these maps as Chilean, although they are currently being negotiated by the two governments. [Paris AFP in Spanish 0239 GMT 5 Dec 78 PY]

FRIGATES ORDERED FROM FRG--Hamburg, 12 Dec (AFP)--Argentina has ordered the purchase of two Meko-36 frigates from the Hamburg firm Blohm und Voss. The first frigate will be delivered in 3 years. The company will also deliver material for four more frigates which will be built by the Argentine naval shipyard. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1440 GMT 12 Dec 78 PY]

PADILLA GRANTS FIRST INTERVIEW AS PRESIDENT

FY122135Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2007 GMT 12 Dec 78 FY

[Text] La Paz 12 Dec (AFP)--The communists can form part of the future Bolivian Government, the chief of state, Gen David Padilla, declared here today to AFP. Padilla granted this agency his first exclusive interview since assuming the presidency 18 days ago. The following is text of the interview:

Question: Mr President, Bolivian leftists immediately applauded the ouster of General Juan Pereda. Does this mean that the military now ruling Bolivia are leftists?

Answer: For obvious reasons, parts of the Bolivian left expressed their support for the regime I preside over, but the great majority of the other political parties did so, too. All parties are interested in a rapid call to elections to reestablish a civilian government in the country, and this opinion is shared by the members of the armed forces. The government I preside over does not answer to any political party platform.

Question: What were the reasons for the two abrupt changes in the government leadership in Bolivia--both by direct intervention of the armed forces--within 125 days?

Answer: The first change, which occurred on 21 July, was mainly the result of proven irregularities in the general elections held only days before. The existence of these irregularities led to the opinion that the political parties, not the people themselves, were unprepared for the responsible exercise of democracy.

Actually, the civilian population voted in a disciplined manner, demonstrating their true civic spirit. But this was not the case at the electoral leadership level, which was responsible for the irregularities I mentioned.

With respect to the new change in government, this was due principally to the fact that there was a critical situation, dangerous from every point of view, resulting from the polarization of positions, and worsened by radical and egotistical attitudes which finally brought about a negative confrontation, first ideological and then political, among the Bolivian people.

Our present goal is to achieve the absolute unity of the Bolivian people, within a prudent span of time, in a civilized way, and in accordance with democratic and legal structures, in order to prevent foreign interests from endangering the nation's existence.

Question: Do you believe that no military officer, on duty or retired, should be a candidate in the 1979 general elections?

Answer: There is no reason why a military officer should not be a presidential candidate in the 1979 general elections, as long as he is legally eligible--that is, he should not continue on active service with the armed forces.

Question: Do you believe a civilian government with communist participation can last in Bolivia?

Answer: I believe it is possible, depending on the amount of influence the Communist Party would have on the government. Actions and not ideas constitute the real threat.

In addition to this, I would like to point out that Bolivia is not an island in the middle of the South American Continent, and none of the neighboring countries would view with pleasure the predominance of the Communist Party in the Bolivian Governme[illegible] or the implementation of government measures capable of disrupting international relations.

Question: Economic sectors indicate that a currency devaluation is unavoidable. Do you support this measure, or will your government postpone it to allow the constitutional government resulting from the coming elections to decide the matter?

Answer: My government has decided to maintain the exchange rate in order to protect the purchasing power of our currency and of the workers who depend on fixed incomes. To attain this my government will implement a monetary stabilization plan which the former finance minister took 3 months to prepare. This plan presents a diagnosis of the overall situation and a set of corrective measures to prevent devaluation, which is probably feasible. The new finance minister, like his predecessor, is a brilliant and well-known economist with broad experience in national economic reality.

Question: Do you support the sale of gas to Brazil, or will your government review the nation's energy situation before making a decision in this regard?

Answer: Reliable experts of Bolivian Government Oil Deposits [YPFB] confirm that proven gas reserves are more than enough to fulfill export commitments and supply the requirements of our industrial development for the next 20 years. At the same time, it is proven that the country's main potential is gas and not oil, and there are still several gasfields where no drilling has been done because at this point there is no need to increase gas reserves and make costly investments to prevent this gas from being burned or released. In any case, before reaching a final agreement with Brazil, because of the scope of this deal, we will make a careful evaluation which would guarantee the fulfillment of obligations stemming from exports and industrial development, without detriment to national interests, which must prevail above any other considerations.

INTERIOR MINISTER CLARIFIES SUBVERSION CHARGE

FY120212Y La Paz Radio Panamericana Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Dec 78 FY

[Text] The Bolivian interior minister, Lt Col Raul Lopez Leyton, reasserted today that his announcement last week of an attempted coup d'etat did not involve private businessmen in general, but just a few members of this sector. Thus the minister dispelled the cloud which has hung over private businessmen in general. The Confederation of Bolivian Private Businessmen and the Businessmen's Federation of Cochabamba had asked the interior minister to either prove or withdraw the charges.

The interior minister stated that in his belief private businessmen play a very significant role in the nation and its development, adding that the members of this sector are as patriotic as the military or any other citizen.

[Begin Lopez Leyton recording] I would like to make clear that when I announced the existence of a subversive plot, I did not mention the name of the federation--the Federation of Cochabamba Businessmen, I mean. What I did say was that there had been a meeting attended by some private businessmen as well as other people. I repeat that I did not mention the name of the Federation of Cochabamba Businessmen. [end recording]

With regard to the role of private enterprise, he said:

[Begin recording] I wish to reassert that private enterprise plays a very important role in the country, and the businessmen are as patriotic as the military or any other citizen. [end recording]

He also said that relations between the military junta and private businessmen are cordial because there are no pending problems; isn't that true, Mr Minister?

[Begin recording] True. Relations are very friendly, and through dialog we have overcome the few small differences which still persisted. [end recording]

Minister Lopez Leyton arrived today at government house together with the president of the Confederation of Bolivian Private Businessmen, Marcelo Perez, who, after listening to Minister Lopez Leyton's statement, indicated:

[Begin Perez recording] In my meeting with the minister here, the following points have been cleared up:

1. The minister at no point mentioned the meeting or the meetings which are normally held by the Federation of Private Businessmen of Cochabamba.

2. The minister mentioned another kind of meeting attended by citizens of several professions, among whom were apparently some businessmen. This in no way involves the Federation of Private Businessmen of Cochabamba or Bolivian private businessmen in general. [end recording]

Marcelo Perez indicated that the statement of the interior minister fully satisfies the organization he represents.

[Begin Perez recording] I wish to state that the Confederation of Private Businessmen is now fully satisfied since the minister has made it clear that he did not aim his accusations at Bolivia's private enterprise or the Federation of Private Businessmen of Cochabamba, but at a few businessmen who have engaged privately in some political activities, as they have a right to do, but without involving the entire national private enterprise. [end recording]

In response to the questions of journalists, Marcelo Perez explained the kind of government the businessmen would support.

[Begin Perez recording] The private businessmen work for the economic and social development of the country. They are not committed to any government. They are committed to the country and the people. Our activities are economic and social; we are not a political party. We work for social justice for all Bolivians through the generation of wealth.

Therefore, we will support governments which respect private property. We will support governments which stimulate private enterprise--in sum, governments which agree that there should be private property. We will not support governments which are against private enterprise and private property. [end recording]

He indicated at the same time that private businessmen support the government's desire to democratize the country and to reestablish a respected and stable state of law. He announced that in the next few days the private businessmen will request a meeting with government officials, officers of the armed forces, professionals and workers in order to help the process of democratization.

He concluded by confirming the statement of the interior minister to the effect that relations between businessmen and government are cordial and friendly.

OFFICER ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN LETELIER CASE RELIEVED OF POST

PY121201Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0115 GMT 12 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile 11 Dec (TELAM)--One of the three Chilean military officers involved in the assassination of former Chilean Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier has been relieved of his post. Col Pedro Espinoza, who is being prosecuted in Washington in relation to Letelier's death, was relieved as commander of the Pudeto regiment, a military unit located in Punta Arenas. According to reports, Espinoza will go into military retirement today.

The Chilean courts have a pending extradition request submitted by the United States which affects Espinoza and Gen Manuel Contrera Sepulveda, former chief of the dissolved DINA [National Intelligence Directorate], and Capt Armando Fernandez Larios.

MIR MEMBERS ARRESTED ON BOMBING CHARGES

PY130015Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2246 GMT 12 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 12 Dec (AFP)--Chilean Government security services have arrested seven members of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) for carrying out several bombings in this city. According to the National Information Center (CNI), which replaced the National Intelligence Directorate (DINA), the group of leftists was headed by Pedro Torres, who reportedly received military training in Cuba in 1973. The CNI did not specify, however, whether the arrested MIR members are responsible for the nine powerful bomb explosions which took place in Santiago over the past 20 days.

EL MERCURIO LISTS PROBLEMS OF PINOCHET GOVERNMENT

PY111913Y Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1620 GMT 11 Dec 78 PY

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 11 Dec (TELAM-ANSA)--The Chilean military regime headed by Gen Augusto Pinochet is currently facing a number of problems, the main one being the border conflict with Argentina. This statement was made by the newspaper EL MERCURIO of Santiago, which indicated in an editorial that the accumulation of political difficulties is putting to the test the capacity of the president and the country to resist.

According to the pro-official morning paper, these difficulties arise from the violent lack of understanding and the opposition caused by the military regime's anticommunist position and the independent social-economic line adopted by the officials. Confirming that very few regimes have had to bear such hard and generalized political and economic offensives as that of President Pinochet, the newspaper calls on the sectors which backed the current Chilean military regime to remain loyal because it is loyalty not only to the government, but to the country as well.

In listing the problems the Chilean regime is facing, the newspaper mentions the border conflict with Argentina, the threat of boycott, the UN agreement on human rights and others.

BRIEFS

DEMONSTRATORS DETAINED--More than 30 persons, relatives of missing persons, were detained by the police in downtown Santiago yesterday for carrying out a demonstration without authorization. They were charged with disorderly conduct but were immediately released after their names and addresses were taken by police. [Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 11 Dec 78 PY]

VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTER ARRIVES FOR OFFICIAL VISIT

PA111846Y Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--Venezuelan Foreign Minister Simon Alberto Consalvi here today rejected the possibility that the conflict between Colombia and Venezuela over marine and submarine areas will be sent to an international tribunal. He said that a solution should result from direct negotiations between the two governments.

On his arrival in Bogota at noon today for an official 3-day visit, the Venezuelan foreign minister said that although the subject of the delimitation of marine and submarine areas is not included on the agenda of the talks with Colombian Foreign Minister Diego Uribe Vargas, the subject will be thoroughly discussed. The foreign minister said he hopes the new Venezuelan Government headed by Luis Herrera Campins will begin negotiations immediately to achieve a solution to the old border dispute. This is a problem that cannot be prolonged for more years, and that is why I believe the two governments should find an immedate peaceful solution, the Venezuelan foreign minister said.

Consalvi said that his country will continue to struggle for the strengthening of the subregional Andean Pact. He said this has also been promised by Luis Herrera Campins, who will succeed Carlos Andres Perez as president.

Consalvi reiterated that the problem of the delimitation of marine and submarine areas should be solved directly between the two governments, without intervention by third parties. He said that the Carlos Andres Perez government has shown the best intentions of solving the conflict, adding that now the subject is left in the hands of Herrera Campins.

AUTHORITIES MAINTAIN CLOSE WATCH ON SANDINIST EXILES

PA111721Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1000 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The activities of Sandinist exiles in Colombia are being closely observed by the national authorities, according to authorized sources here. This vigilance, maintained since their arrival in the country, led to the conclusion that some of the refugees were in permanent contact with subversive groups operating in Colombia and were even included in recent jointly planned terrorist actions, the sources said. Notwithstanding these activities, the government, respectful of the rights of asylum, for the time being will not take any action to oust these terrorists, whose behavior represents a threat to the national security, the sources added.

NICARAGUANS SEEK ASYLUM IN COLOMBIAN EMBASSY

PA101911Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Bogota--The Colombian Foreign Ministry reported today that four persons are in asylum at the embassy in Nicaragua. They hope to be granted safeconducts at any moment so that they may come to Bogota or San Andres.

According to an official Foreign Ministry spokesman, our government has granted diplomatic and territorial asylum to approximately 30 Nicaraguan citizens who are fleeing the dictatorial regime of Gen Anastasio Somoza. Most of the refugees have been treated well, given jobs and provided with subsistence funds. Colombia and Venezuela recently reiterated that they will maintain their policy of aid to the persecuted Nicaraguan citizens and of defense of human rights.

JUSTICE MINISTER ASKS SUBVERSIVES TO PUT DOWN ARMS

PA111438Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0147 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Bogota, 10 Dec (AFP)-- Justice Minister Hugo Escobar Sierra today issued a call to subversive groups to put down their arms and freely promote their ideologies in Colombia. In an extensive statement to the Radio Cadena Nacional station, the minister stressed that there are no political prisoners in Colombia, adding that one must differentiate between opposition and subversion.

In his opinion, the extremist groups are the same communist cells which each day call themselves different names, such as M-19 Workers Self-Defense Committee or National Liberation Army, in order to make the public believe that "they are numerous, growing and well known." He said that those organizations "are sacrificing the communist youth. They are eliminating them, because they end up in the mountains hiding from the authorities, in jail, or die in confrontations with the armed forces." He added that this a huge mistake of the communist strategy. "That is why," he said, "communism is a seed that will never take root in Colombia."

The minister said that "the opposition has all the guarantees in Colombia, but not subversion, because that is a criminal action, and criminality will be fought with the utmost energy and rigor, in accordance with legal provisions."

He explained that what occurs with some alleged "political prisoners" is that "they commit common crimes and then say that they are political offenders." "It must be clear that political criminality cannot go unpunished," Escobar Sierra stressed.

He also said he was satisfied with the results so far of the implementation of the controversial security statute, expressing the government view of maintaining it for the time deemed necessary "to counteract subversion of public order, terrorism and kidnapings." He admitted that "there are prominent and important persons who, on legal grounds, do not agree with the text of the statute, although they do agree with its aims."

After stressing the forthcoming congressional approval of the judicial reform and the issue of a new penal and procedural code, the minister firmly rejected the eventual legalization of marihuana cultivation in Colombia because of the many evils it would bring to the country.

TWO GUERRILLAS KILLED IN CLASH WITH TROOPS

PA120336Y Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Bucaramanga, Colombia--Two guerrillas were killed today in a clash with regular troops near San Vicenter del Cajuan, the Defense Ministry officially announced. The clash took place during antiguerrilla operations. The two dead guerrillas were part of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC], which kidnaped rancher Alvaro Santofimio.

Defense Ministry reports say that during the operation the troops seized 90 rounds of ammunition for [word indistinct] carbines, 3 clips for the same, 240 rounds of ammunition for 30-caliber carbines, 2 [word indistinct] grenades, 3 [word indistinct] of detonation cord, 3 field glasses, uniforms, drugs and FARC subversive propaganda.

GOVERNMENT ISSUES WARNING ON CALDERON MUNOZ' DEATH

PA121540Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0203 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 11 Dec (LATIN)--The Ecuadorean Government firmly warned today that it will not tolerate demagogic exploitation of the death of former presidential candidate Abdon Calderon and false charges blaming the government for alleged neglect in investigating the assassination. In a brief speech over a radio and television network tonight, Government Minister Gen Bolivar Jarrin said that "the national government is the one which most grieves and regrets the loss of a distinguished citizen". Abdon Calderon died on Saturday as a result of wounds he received during a terrorist attack.

The minister said that it "is unjustifiable" for relatives, friends and persons close to Calderon to use his death "to satisfy their desire for demogogy and personal interests." After appealing for prudence he said that an attempt is being made to create disorder in the city of Guayaquil, 450 km southwest of Quito, where Calderon's body lies in state. Jarrin issued a "very clear" warning about the possible consequences of that attitude. The government "will not permit any more slander or insults" against it or its institutions, "regardless of where they come from, particularly in such a serious matter as a vile homicide." Jarrin also said that the authorities will maintain "the nation's order and peace through all legal means and others which might have to be implemented." He warned the mass media that "freedom of expression is one thing and abuse of that freedom is another very different thing."

During the past few hours Calderon's family, political leaders and various newspapers harshly criticized the government over the investigation of the assassination. Jaime Roldos, presidential candidate of the Concentration of Popular Forces (CFP), asked for the replacement of Minister Jarrin, blaming him for alleged police negligence. Calderon's family said that the alleged assassin, Guillermo Mendez, was captured as a result of private investigations, without participation of the police. This claim was emphatically denied by Jarrin.

AMERICANS NOT INVOLVED IN PLOT AGAINST JAIME ROLDOS

PA092028Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0358 GMT 9 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 8 Dec (AFP)--Government Minister Gen Bolivar Jarrin tonight confirmed the arrest of eight Americans and three Ecuadoreans involved in the illegal traffic of archeological artifacts.

Reporting on this incident, the minister denied rumors and charges that the Americans were involved in a plot against the life of populist leader Jaime Roldos.

The eight Americans were arrested on 25 October in the Province of Manabi, on the Ecuadorean littoral.

The prisoners were at the disposal of the military intelligence service until today. From now on they will come under the jurisdiction of the appropriate judges who will try them within the framework of investigations into the traffic of archeological artifacts, which is forbidden in Ecuador.

The report of the attempt on the populist candidate's life came from another American who had initially been a member of the group.

The arrested Americans are: Clyde Nickeson, Terry Nickeson, Tom Nickeson, Bill Scabrouch, Ned Moeldin, Suzanne Arpin, Beverly Kolcomp and Charlote Koehl.

GOVERNMENT SEEKING OPEC SECRETARY GENERAL POST

PA092017Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Quito--In response to a reporter's question Foreign Minister Jose Ayala Lasso revealed that the Foreign Ministry has sent missions to several member nations of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to analyze the possibilities of strengthening diplomatic, commercial and cultural relations and to obtain support for the Ecuadorean candidate, engineer Rene Ortiz, for OPEC's secretary general post.

The foreign minister said that the results of the missions have been satisfactory and that these nations confirmed the decision adopted by OPEC in 1976 to support Ecuador for that position.

FOREIGN MINISTRY REPORTS ASYLUM FOR NICARAGUAN

PA101711Y Managua Radio Corporacion in Spanish 0400 GMT 10 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Quito--The Ecuadorean Government has granted diplomatic asylum to Nicaraguan citizen Alfredo (?Tendrain) Navarrete, the Foreign Ministry reported here today. (?Tendrain) Navarrete had requested asylum on 30 November at the Ecuadorean Embassy in Managua.

After studying the request, the government granted asylum in accordance with international law, it was reported.

DURAN ARCENTALES LEAVES TO UNDERGO TREATMENT IN U.S.

PA081947Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1614 GMT 8 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Quito, 8 Dec (AFP)--Maj Gen Guillermo Duran Arcentales, member of the Supreme Council of Government, departed for New York today to undergo medical treatment.

Arcentales traveled aboard an Ecuadorean airline plane accompanied by his wife, Magdalena Cabezas de Duran, and two aides-de-camp.

The other two members of the Supreme Council of Government, Adm Alfredo Poveda, the head of the council, and Brig Gen Luis Leoro Franco, were at the airport to see him off.

According to well-informed sources, General Duran will be hospitalized at Johns Hopkins hospital in Baltimore.

CEPE ANNOUNCES DISCOVERY OF NEW 'PETROLEUM STRUCTURES'

PA092007Y Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 9 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Quito--The Ecuadorean State Petroleum Corporation (CEPE) has announced the discovery of new petroleum structures [as heard] in the mideastern region of the country.

Corporation experts explained that the discovery of these new sandstone structures in the Ollin and Basal Napo region is important because favorable conditions for the existence of petroleum deposits now exist.

HERRERA CAMPINS OFFICIALLY PROCLAIMED PRESIDENT-ELECT

PA121612Y Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish 2255 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Official record of votes cast for president of the republic; read by Supreme Electoral Council President Carlos Delgado Chapellin during proclamation ceremony for Luis Herrera Campins at the Supreme Electoral Council on 11 December--live]

[Text] Herewith the reading of the votes cast for president of the republic:

Republic of Venezuela, Supreme Electoral Council

Record of the total votes for president of the republic:

Meeting in the city of Caracas on 11 December 1978, the members of the Supreme Electoral Council under the presidency of Dr Carlos Delgado Chapellin, with the first and second vice presidents, citizens Rolando Salcedo de Lima and Carlos Armando Figueredo, respectively, and members Florencio Contreras Quintero, Enrique Padilla Ron, (Hilarion Cardoso), Antonio Jose Urbina, Antonio Hernandez Fonseca and Francisco Marcano attending and also in the presence of representative Humberto Bartoli, proceeded, pursuant to the dispositions of the first part of Article 136 of the organic suffrage law ard in accordance with Ordinance 21 of Article 43 [word indistinct] to total the valid votes for president of the republic cast in the 3 December 1978 elections. This tally was conducted using the records proceeding from the principal electoral boards of the entire republic.

After totaling the ballots, the result was:

Total of large valid votes: 5,332,162

Distribution of this tally is as follows:

Citizen Luis Herrera Campins	2,487,318
Citizen Luis Pinerua	2,309,567
Citizen Jose Vicente Rangel	275,942
Citizen Diego Arria (Sanitechi)	89,651
Citizen Luis Beltran Prieto Figueroa	59,747
Citizen Americo Martin	52,286
Citizen Hector Mujica	29,305
Citizen Leonardo Montiel Ortega	13,918
Citizen Jesus Alejandro Gomez Silva	8,337
Citizen Pablo Salas Castillo	2,081

From this tally, it is concluded that the majority of the large valid votes was obtained by citizen Luis Herrera Campins, who is a Venezuelan citizen, married, over 30 and holder of identification cedula No 419,406. He was nominated by the Social Christian COPEI, Democratic Republican Union, Popular Democratic Force and National Opinion political parties.

The proclamation ceremony was set for this same day, 11 December 1978, at 1900.

The national executive (?is being) notified and the present official record is being published in the official GAZETTE of the Republic of Venezuela.

[Signed] Carlos Delgado Chapellin, president; Rolando Salcedo de Lima, Carlos Armando Figueredo, Florencio Contreras Quintero, Enrique Padilla Ron, (Hilarion Cardoso), Antonio Jose Urbina, Antonio Hernandez Fonseca, Francisco Marcano (Batusini), Humberto Bartoli and Nerio Jose Rausseo, secretary

In accordance with the results shown by the record of total votes for president of the republic, which has just been read by the secretary of the organization, in the name of the republic and by the authority vested in me by law, and acting officially for the Supreme Electoral Council, I proclaim citizen Luis Herrera Campins president of the republic for the constitutional term 1979-1984. [applause]

President-Elect Speaks at Ceremony

PA121247Y Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish 2325 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Speech by President-elect Luis Herrera Campins at ceremony in which he was proclaimed president-elect of Venezuela for 1979-1984 term at Supreme Electoral Council auditorium in Caracas--live]

[Text] Mr President of the Republic; President and Vice President of the National Congress; President of the Supreme Court of Justice; President of the Legislative Council; former Presidents of the Republic Romulo Betancourt and Rafael Caldera; former President of the government junta Edgard Sanabria; Ministers of the executive; Governor of the Federal District; General Treasurer (Fiscal General) of the Republic; Comptroller General of the Republic; Attorney General of the Republic; His Excellency the Apostolic Nuncio; Dean of the Diplomatic Corps; representatives of the armed forces; Presidents of the Municipal Council and the Federal District; Most Excellent and Reverend Archbishop of Caracas; Rector of the Central University of Venezuela; representatives of the economic organizations; representatives of the political parties; representatives of labor organizations; candidates to the presidency of the republic; former presidents of the Supreme Electoral Council; representative members of the Supreme Electoral Council; leaders and members of the political parties; dear ladies and gentlemen:

The true protagonists of all these democratic changeovers are the people--actors, witnesses and judges, either successively or simultaneously. Beyond the obvious consideration that involves us ourselves, there are reasons and motives which we must accept and understand.

Democracy constitutes a permanent concession to unity; intolerance, intransigence and arrogance are alien and contrary to it. Democracy is a constant search for a better life so that the rights of people may find a channel, an expression and an (?existence) and so that freedom is not subjected to illegitimate limitations or human dignity diminished.

Today, it is necessary to affirm even more the need [for democracy]. There is a worldwide conspiracy, springing from very different lands, against the essential freedom of man, against his spirit, against his importance. There is an attempt to subject human behavior to the plots of various influences, and at times alienation is practiced, almost without knowing that it is happening. Let us make the perfectibility of democracy a means of guaranteeing the freedom of man.

The Venezuelan people witnessed a vivid demonstration of high national conscientiousness through their participation in the 3 December elections. For those of us who achieved victory in the elections and for those who did not obtain it, this was an unforgettable lesson.

The people are aware of their power, of the power of their vote, of the power of their political decisions. When they adopt a definitive position, nothing sways them from their purpose. They resist flattery, threats, predictions. They act in accordance with their will. Let us make the perfectibility of democracy a path of the affirmation and enhancement of human will.

I publicly and formally recognize the sensible manner in which this process was carried out by the Supreme Electoral Council. Serenity, discretion, good sense and flexibility were the characteristics of this supervisory behavior. To these qualities can be attributed the success achieved in the delicate field of the renovation of the branches of public power through elections.

I also extend recognition to the national armed forces for the successful conclusion of the Fourth Republic operation, based on previous experiences. Patriotism, responsible leadership and the military spirit of service were invaluable contributions. Let us make the perfectibility of democracy a means to enhance Venezuelan institutionality.

I began an intensive campaign with no rest other than the inevitable pauses in the struggle. I encountered difficulties and obstacles which I was able to overcome because of my determination and the efforts of the people who always accompanied me and who encouraged me to succeed when it seemed impossible.

At no time did I doubt my victory and, as I moved toward it, I projected my optimism. I have had extraordinary confidence in our people, in their ability to understand the humane and social advanced meaning of my message. I strived to give a national content to my presidential candidacy in order to interpret the reality of the people--their desires and their aspirations of austerity, probity, efficiency and integral transformation. Let us make the perfectibility of democracy a path on which the people's hopes can move at will.

I promised [words indistinct] and I was able to join with my Social Christian COPEI Party, which is of the center, in a broad alliance with the Democratic Republican Union, the Popular Democratic Force, the National Opinion OPINA Party and independent nuclei and personalities. I extend my thanks to them all for their contributions to victory.

Today I wish to reiterate to all Venezuela my willingness to govern without sectarianism but with the cooperation of democratic forces which agree to cooperate within the general framework of my government program. My only interest is that of the fatherland and its great people in order to promote, with boldness, creativity and imagination, the process of integral economic development of our human and natural resources. Let us make the perfectibility of democracy a broad path for the promotion of man enabling us to move without hesitation toward the future.

I am going to have a government that works to achieve the greatest social productivity from public investments. We are going to govern with a sense of priorities, with education being the most prominent, and with the necessary and firm fiscal discipline.

I promise that I will direct state investments toward the prosperity, welfare and happiness of the inhabitants of the country. I will also seek the best selection of officials on the basis of their honesty, ability and devotion to service in order to accelerate the solution of national problems. Let us make the perfectibility of democracy a means of satisfying the Venezuelan people's essential needs of comfort and progress.

I have promised to give to the state's functions the characteristics of a state that seeks to stimulate the personal and social initiative of all inhabitants and the formation of sectorial and territorial nuclei which constitute a real social power made up of intermediate societies--between the levels of the individuals and the state--in order to forestall arbitrariness and abusive interventionism and thereby guarantee the values and rights of the individual.

Social organization will be an effective means of correcting the hypertrophy of polarization and partisanship in national life.

Let us make the perfectibility of democracy a path to achieve the organized participation of the people, to permit them to control the decisions which affect their destiny.

Shaken and concerned over the excesses of a consumer society, Venezuela demands austerity. This has been the distinctive characteristic of my personal, family and political life. My government will have that quality, and I will also demand it from all my aides. Waste, handouts [manirrotismo] and ostentation, rooted in administrative disorder, have been the paths of corruption which I will face with firmness and severity. Let us make the perfectibility of democracy a path to probity and the full exercise of administrative honesty.

My government will have the goal of progress. My commitment to Venezuela is my program of government. We will administer with zeal and patriotism, and the continuity of the work begun by former governments will be guaranteed for the good of all.

The coming changeover of government brings to mind the statements made by our distinquished friend and current president of the republic, Carlos Andres Perez, on an occasion similar to this: The political interests of the outgoing and incoming governments must be subordinated to the advantage of the nation. Therefore, I place great emphasis on insuring that the changeover will not injure the continuity of the state or the rights of the people. Let us make the perfectibility of democracy a path for achieving administrative continuity.

My government will be one of consultation and dialog--a government that respects the social status of law, without opportunistic and unexpected changes in the laws which govern the people's activity. It will be a government of cordial relations with the other branches of public power and it will be respectful of autonomy. It will be a government open to continental integration and to links with the other peoples of the world in this era of worldwide civilization, the precursor of the future great worldwide civilization.

I demand cooperation of all the people--churchmen, military, rural and urban workers, youths, businessmen, technicians and professionals, professors and teachers, women, children, the elderly. All can contribute effectively to the grandeur of the fatherland. Let us make the perfectibility of democracy a path for the personal and social realization of all who live in this generous land.

My great commitment is to the poor, the neglected, the abandoned, the sidelined, as they are now called. Their human drama touches the basic fibers of my sensibility. We will make the change of mentality in education and labor the best instruments for overcoming this neglect--the task of all those in the coming government, from the first to the last day of its administration. I call for the help of God to serve as my inspiration for the government effort.

I come from the provinces, from Acarigua, of Portuguesa State, which is rather like a heart in the center of the fatherland. I promise not to forget the people, to fulfill my promises, and to be an unaffected, honest and accessible president.

I bring [words indistinct], an awakened imagination, a mature judgment, the elementary equilibrium for the exercise of government, which is the exercise of service. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT LOPEZ-PORTILLO URGES 'CLEAN' ELECTIONS

PA091801Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0005 GMT 9 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 8 Dec (EFE)--The governing Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI) has been urged by the government itself to struggle "cleanly" in the first multiparty elections to take place in the country. The elections will be held next year.

At a meeting held by the PRI on Thursday afternoon in support of its government, President Jose Lopez-Portillo stated: "Let us prepare ourselves for a clean and institutional fight." The chief of state said that democracy means tolerating dissidence and respecting the majority and its decision. Lopez-Portillo noted "the country will have an important democratic test next year. Let us win the confidence of the institutions that we will continue struggling for what we believe in."

The federal elections in July 1979 will be to elect the members of the Chamber of Deputies. As a result of recent electoral reforms, seven political parties and four political organizations will participate in them for the first time. The president told PRI militants that his government has opened the door to all ideological currents "in good democratic faith" because it is convinced that the PRI will remain as the main political force in the country.

In an unusual action, the president called on the members of his party to go to the polls and to continue "the revolutionary work." He asked them not to be inhibited by ill-intentioned criticism, noting that this type of criticism is just "barking at the moon" since the majority "belongs to our party."

STATE GOVERNOR APOLOGIZES FOR SUGGESTING U.S. AID REQUEST

PA102307Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 2034 GMT 10 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Aldama (Mexico), 10 Dec (EFE)--President Jose Lopez-Portillo made it clear here that Mexico does not intend to receive--" not even as a joke"-- free aid from the United States to solve its problems. Lopez-Portillo made the statement yesterday when he replied to a suggestion made by Tamaulipas State Governor Enrique Cardenas, who had told Lopez-Portillo that it would perhaps be necessary to request U.S. aid to rehabilitate a border town.

According to the governor, Lopez-Portillo said in reply to his statement shortly before arriving in this town aboard a helicopter: "Do not tell me that, not even as a joke." In a speech given in this town, located approximately 650 km northwest of the capital, Cardenas publicly apologized to Lopez-Portillo for considering the possibility of U.S. aid. The governor said he understood that Mexico's domestic problems must be solved by Mexicans.

CUBA REPORTS ON MEXICAN FISHERIES DELEGATION

FL122238Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2210 GMT 12 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Cuba and Mexico maintain a broad exchange of experiences in fisheries training and utilization of fishing vessels, stated Capt Ricardo Thomson Ramirez today in the Mexican capital. Thomson headed the group of Mexican teachers from the Federal Directorate of Marine Science and Technology which recently visited Cuba to exchange information and experiences on fisheries education.

PRESIDENT ROYO MEETS WITH COSTA RICAN FOREIGN MINISTER

PA121958Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2152 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] Panama City, 11 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Costa Rican Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier met here today for a few minutes with Panamanian President Aristides Royo. A spokesman for the presidency confirmed to ACAN-EFE that the meeting took place but said he did not know what subjects were discussed.

Calderon Fournier, who had stopped in Panama City for a few hours on Thursday on his way to Venezuela, also made a brief stopover on his way back, supposedly to exchange opinions with Royo and Foreign Minister Carlos Ozores on the situation created by Costa Rica's break of relations with the Nicaraguan Government.

Calderon Fournier was met at Tocumen Airport today by Foreign Minister Ozores, who accompanied him to the meeting with President Royo at the Palace of the Herons.

PRESIDENT ROYO INSTALLS NATIONAL LABOR COMMISSION

PA130424Y Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] The National Labor Commission, made up of representatives of the business and labor sectors, was installed this morning in a ceremony held in the Yellow Room of the presidential palace.

Antonio Ducruet, Roberto Simmons, Juan Pascual, Walter Durling and Dario Selles represent the management sector in the commission. Gabriel Galdeano, Epifanio Peralta, Eduardo E. Rios, Angel Gomez and Rolando Ordonez represent labor.

The National Labor Commission's duties include: Serving as an advisory body for the executive branch on labor matters, studying and investigating all aspects of labor problems, and recommending measures aimed at resolving them to the executive branch.

Immediately after the labor commission members signed the installation act, President Royo made the following statements:

[Begin Royo recording] Gentlemen, we would like to take advantage of this opportunity to give you our most sincere thanks for having dared to accept these posts in the National Labor Commission. This constitutes further expression--further, but not the last expression--of the participation that we seek to give the Panamanian people in high-ranking government tasks. We did this with the National Economic Council; on this occasion it is the labor sector's turn. Later we will do it in those areas connected with the implementation of treaties, where almost 600 professionals are already working. We will also do this in connection with Panamanian tributary aspects.

Within the framework of all of these expressions of the people's participation in the activities of the government--of a government that the people must feel is their own--this National Labor Commission that we are installing today will perhaps have the most serious responsibilities because, integrated as it is by representatives of both labor and the private business sector, as well as the Labor Ministry--for the commission will be presided over by Labor Minister Oyden Ortega--it will be faced with difficult and not very pleasant tasks.

Some of its tasks will be rather unpleasant, for instance, the revision of everything concerned with Law No 95 and those aspects connected with the collective conventions, wages, labor education, professional training, and many other issues that should be aimed at improving labor-management relations.

We would like to have this National Labor Commission installed with a political viewpoint that we hope will guide all of your actions--the view that you should not regard each other as enemies. Workers should not view the private sector's investments as the enemy, but neither should the private sector view workers as the enemies of capital. Neither party has made statements to this effect, and that is why you should view each other as friends and comrades at this table of frank negotiations at which you will be sitting beginning today. [end recording]

CORRESPONDENT REPORTS ON PANAMANIANS IN FSLN BRIGADES

PA122314Y Panama City MATUTINO in Spanish 12 Dec 78 pp 1A, 8A PA

[Interview with "war correspondent" Antonio Graell conducted by Francisco Castaneda in Panama City; date not given; quotation marks as published]

[Text] "Stress in this interview that no Panamanians have died," and that "all those in the front are maintaining their high morale and determination to remain there until Somoza's downfall. There are men and women there of all ideologies and religious beliefs, whose sole common denominator is their desire to free a people from the tyranny, oppression and subjugation to which they are subjected by the dictator of that sister nation," colleague Antonio Graell told this newspaper during a visit, after resuming his journalistic activities following his return from that war-torn area.

"The only thing that the Nicaraguan people hear is what Somoza's radio stations report, but many of his soldiers are dying while the Sandinist Front has had only very few, but deeply felt, losses, such as that of priest Gaspar Garcia Laviana, known as Commander Martin. He died in a clash with the Somozist National Guard. He died as a combatant and as a firm believer in Catholic doctrine. He chose the armed struggle because he was convinced that it was the only way to eliminate a genocide such as the Nicaraguan president." According to Graell, most Sandinists are Catholic. Graell is known in his brigade as "Mustafa," a nickname by which many of his friends identify him.

And what about Doctors Spadafora and Aparicio? We asked Graell a little bit about their condition and location. Dr Hugo Spadafora is one of the leaders of this movement, and Dr Jorge Aparicio also resigned the post he held in order to join the Nicaraguan people's struggle.

"Both are fine. We left here on 27 September; I will not tell you where we went. During our training many of the original 300 trainees were rejected. In other words, due to physical, moral or even family reasons, many of them had to return. Those who managed to pass were divided into brigades, after undergoing harsh military and political training. I can tell you that the condition and the discipline of the Panamanians are excellent and not only among those who formed the first group. When we arrived, there were already Panamanian volunteers who had joined independently. Others have joined since that time, and many continue to join every day because all of them are willing to remain there until Somoza is overthrown. We expect this to happen soon.

Returning to your question, I will tell you that I saw Dr Spadafora practicing with his rifle about 2 weeks ago. Dr Aparicio was involved in a car accident, but he is quite well now.

Only one Panamanian, known as Cocle, has been injured, but it was a slight wound.

And what about you? What is the reason for your presence here? Did you have any problems during any of the clashes?

Look, I have been asked whether or not I have been in combat. The National Guard does not rest. But as a war correspondent I have been lucky. The chief of my brigade, priest Laviana, died. As I mentioned earlier, he was killed by the National Guard. I had to return for health reasons. I had an accident involving my knee during the harsh training period, and I have not recovered, so I must receive special treatment. That is why I am here.

There are many things that I would like to say, but I cannot because it is not advisable at present.

Graell tries to select a few memories. Eden Pastora, known here as Commander Cero, is the commander in chief, he says. I have seen about four Panamanian women forming part of the front, Graell adds. The slogan is: Free fatherland or death.

COMMITTEE DENOUNCES TREATMENT OF SANDINIST'S DAUGHTER

PA130351Y Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Text] In a press bulletin released today, the Panamanian Committee of Solidarity with Nicaragua denounced a new example of indiscriminate aggression against the Nicaraguan people at the Colombian Embassy in Managua.

According to the bulletin, Anastasio Somoza's government has sentenced a 4-year-old girl to death for the crime of being the daughter of Sandinist opposition leader Tomas Borge Martinez. Josefa Cerdas, the Sandinist leader's wife, and their daughter are refugees at the Colombian Embassy, but Somoza's government has refused to grant the necessary safeconducts.

The girl, Ana Josefina, is suffering from a serious kidney infection and may die soon if she is not treated immediately.

The Panamanian Committee of Solidarity with Nicaragua and the "1 Balboa Against Somoza" movement led by Nicaraguan singer Carlos Mejia Godoy urge all democratic, progressive and revolutionary forces to exert pressure on Somoza's government so that Ana Josefa [as heard] Borge will not only receive the necessary safeconduct but also enjoy the right to live.

BRIEFS

NEW SUPREME COURT PRESIDENT--Magistrate Gonzalo Rodrigues Marquez was designated Supreme Court of Justice president this afternoon. Now that he has tendered his resignation, former President Juan Materno Vasquez will be joining a committee to promote railroad policies here in Panama. [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 7 Dec 78 PA]

COSTA RICA

INTERIOR MINISTER DISCUSSES COST OF CLEANUP OPERATION

PA121516Y San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria Brealey has said that the cleanup operation will cost millions of colones but not 8 million as has been suggested. The minister said that it is costing the government approximately 2 million colones to transport part of its police force to the country's northern area. He added that the expenses basically involve food as well as fuel for vehicles.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN EXCHANGE DECREASES--The foreign exchange derived from exports decreased over the first 10 months of 1978 in comparison with 1977. Foreign exchange amounted to $554.1 million from January to September, which shows a decrease of $2.6 million in comparison with 1977. [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 Dec 78 PA]

EL SALVADOR

ARCHBISHOP REPORTEDLY NEGOTIATING RELEASE OF BANKERS

PA121205Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2127 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] San Salvador, 11 Dec (LATIN)--Diplomatic sources said here today that a commission composed of Archbishop of El Salvador Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero and a member of the Salvadoran Red Cross is reportedly negotiating the release of two British bankers with representatives of the guerrillas who kidnaped them 2 weeks ago.

The government of President Carlos Humberto Romero, however, has maintained its position of not negotiating with terrorist groups, a position which is apparently blocking the efforts to free bankers Ian Cameron Massie and Michael Stanislav Chatterton, hostages of the so-called Armed Forces of National Resistance.

The diplomatic sources, which asked not to be identified, said that it is expected that there will be a favorable outcome in the next 24 hours with regard to the two bankers.

The archbishop, according to a spokesman for his office, plans to inform newsmen about some of his discussions with the guerrilla representatives. It is possible that the situation regarding other foreign hostages--Netherlands executive Fritz Schuitema of the Phillips Company, and Japanese businessman Takakazu Suzuki of the Central American Synthetics Industries--will also be made known.

FARN ISSUES DEMANDS FOR RELEASE OF JAPANESE BUSINESSMAN

PA130054Y Paris AFP in English 0046 GMT 13 Dec 78 PA

[Text] San Salvador, El Salvador, 12 Dec (AFP)--The kidnappers of Japanese businessman Takakazu Suzuki have sent his family a letter about conditions for his release, unofficial sources said here today. They are reportedly demanding the freeing of a number of Salvadoran political prisoners, an unknown amount of money, and publication of statements from the kidnappers' group in major world newspapers.

Negotiations are in the hands of the management of the textile firm for which Mr. Suzuki is sales director. Both Salvadoran and Japanese interests are represented in the company.

Mr. Suzuki [words indistinct] last Thursday by a group claiming to belong to a group known as the "Armed Forces of National Resistance" [FARN].

BRIEFS

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT INVESTMENTS--Official sources have reported that more than 156 million colones will be invested in tourism development projects that the government plans to carry out in the present 5-year period. The projects include construction, expansion and improvement of tourist centers at a cost of 42.2 million colones, development of Panchimalco and construction of the Walter T. Deininger Park. [San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 5 Dec 78 p 36 PA]

GUATEMALA

OFFICIAL CRITICIZES UK DISCLOSURE ON BELIZE DISPUTE

PA121634Y Paris AFP in Spanish 0045 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 11 Dec (AFP)--Napoleon Alfaro, chairman of the Guatemalan Congress Foreign Relations Committee, said here today that he had harshly criticized Britain in the UN Fourth Committee for revealing the contents of the negotiations on the Belize dispute.

Alfaro, who returned from New York yesterday, said that Britain had made the disclosure to gain the support of nonalined countries.

"This British strategy influenced the vote in the Fourth Committee contrary to the interests of Guatemala, which is seeking to recover the territory of Belize," he added.

The committee chairman added that "Great Britain's imprudence could harm the process of future negotiations for finding a peaceful solution to the dispute." The deputy also noted Guatemala's firm determination to negotiate directly with the Belizean people.

This Central American country has been demanding the return of Belize for more than a century. Great Britain, on the other hand, wants to make it independent.

AUTHORITIES REPORT ON RECENT GUERRILLA ACTIVITIES

PA111925Y Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 1800 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Guatemalan authorities have reported that kidnapings, political killings and guerrilla activities took place over the weekend. The report seems to confirm last week's statements by Government Minister Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz about the alleged reappearance of leftist guerrilla groups which had been active in the country more than a decade ago.

The 13 November revolutionary movement took credit for the death of a labor leader. Yesterday the rebel armed forces reemerged with the distribution of subversive propaganda along the southern Guatemalan coast.

Along with the reemergence of those extreme left clandestine groups, it was reported that 17 bodies, most of them showing signs of having been tortured before receiving a coup de grace in the forehead, were found in various parts of the interior of Guatemala. It was also reported that four persons--all of them residents of Pajapita, San Marcos, in western Guatemala--were kidnaped.

It was also reported that one of the bodyguards of the Escuintla governor was killed in an ambush by unidentified individuals who escaped.

The police said that investigations have begun to capture those responsible for these violent actions.

BRIEFS

DEFENSE VICE MINISTER--Guatemala City, 5 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--Guatemalan President Gen Romeo Lucas Garcia yesterday appointed Col Arman Roberto Salazar Asturias as the new defense vice minister. He replaces Col Federico Fuentes Corado. [Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2202 GMT 5 Dec 78 PA]

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT OBSERVERS TO NICARAGUAN-COSTA RICAN BORDER

PA130337Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0020 GMT 13 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 12 Dec (LATIN)--It was officialy reported here today that the Honduran Government will send observers to the border between Costa Rica and Nicaragua. Deputy Foreign Minister Jorge Ramon Hernandez Alcerro, who made the announcement, said that the Costa Rican and Nicaraguan governments requested the observers from the permanent council of the OAS.

Hernandez Alcerro said that the Honduran mission will help maintain peace in the region and prevent shooting incidents on the border between Costa Rica and Nicaragua. He added that the Honduran military junta decided to join in the pacification effort in which many American governments will participate by sending observers to the scene where several recent border clashes occurred between Costa Rican and Nicaraguan soldiers. The Honduran mission will join the observers from other countries and, according to Hernandez Alcerro, the Foreign Ministry will soon announce the appointment of the Honduran observers.

SECURITY POLICE CAPTURE SANDINISTS IN TEGUCIGALPA

PA121641Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2304 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 11 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--The Honduran public security force (police) today captured a still undetermined number of Nicaraguan Sandinist guerrillas. The capture took place in the Sitile neighborhood of Tegucigalpa, presumably where the guerrillas were taking part in some type of training.

German Allan Padget, press secretary of the military junta, told newsmen that he will issue soon a complete list of those captured. He said that some small arms used for training were confiscated and that the guerrillas had dug some trenches and had set up a type of shooting range.

He indicated that because the investigation is still underway, it is not yet known if the residents of the populous neighborhood had reported the presence of the guerrillas or if the guerrillas had been observed training.

He said that the guerrillas had entered Honduras as civilian refugees fleeing from the situation in Nicaragua in September. He warned that such an act compromises the situation of thousands of refugees who are being assisted at special camps administered by the Honduran Red Cross. Padget said that the situation has forced the government to adopt new security measures since it does not want to involve itself in the Nicaraguan problem. He stressed that the government has already announced its neutrality on the subject.

Thirty-four Sandinist guerrillas are currently being held in military camps waiting for a friendly country to receive them as political refugees. The press secretary said that those guerrillas are treated well, as was confirmed by an Amnesty International delegate who visited them. This is also true for civilian refugees.

The official said that the Sandinist National Liberation Front was compromising the situation of the Nicaraguan refugees by permitting its members to enter Honduras as civilian refugees rather than as combatants against the Anastasio Somoza government.

Padget denied the charges by the Committee of Solidarity With the Nicaraguan People and the Honduran University Students Federation which were published by the newspaper TIEMPO that 28 persons had been captured by Honduran and Nicaraguan security agents.

Press Secretary Clarifies Report

PA121951Y Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1620 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 12 Dec (ACAN-EFE)--German Allan Padget, press secretary of the Honduran military junta, last night (?issued) a new version of the capture of alleged Nicaraguan guerrillas who were training in a populous neighborhood of Tegucigalpa. In the initial report the official had said that on Monday a group of Nicaraguan Sandinists had been captured in the Sitile neighborhood and that small arms used for training had been confiscated from them. He had also said that they had dug some trenches and had set up a type of shooting range.

Changing his version of the events, Padget indicated that 19 youths, members of 2 or 3 families, had been captured. He said that "they did not put up any resistance and no weapons were found." He added: "They carried out their training with crude weapons, mostly sticks and, apart from constructing barricades and marching in a valley, they were only involved in becoming indoctrinated."

The official spokesman indicated that "not all of those captured could be classified as people capable of carrying out guerrilla activities because there were women, minors and elderly people in the group who accompanied the youths as relatives or friends." The official list released by Padget to the Honduran press indicates that Octavio Chavez Zuniga is the group's leader.

ARRESTED NICARAGUAN GUERRILLAS TO BE DEPORTED

PA130327Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0218 GMT 13 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpt] Tegucigalpa, 13 Dec (LATIN)--The Honduran police said that 19 Nicaraguan refugees, including several members of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, have been arrested here. Government spokesman German Allan Padget said that the persons not involved with the guerrillas will be turned over to the refugee camps maintained by the Honduran Red Cross in southern Honduras. The guerrillas will be interned in the military barracks of Choluteca, 200 km from Tegucigalpa, to await deportation.

NICARAGUA

OPPOSITION REITERATES CONDITIONS FOR TALKS WITH SOMOZA

PA130103Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 2107 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[By Agustin Fuentes]

[Excerpt] Managua, 12 Dec (LATIN)--Opposition leaders today demanded an immediate amnesty for all political prisoners as an essential condition to begin direct talks with the government on the country's future. A spokesman of the Broad Opposition Front (FAO), which includes the principal anti-Somozist organizations, has voiced his confidence that Congress will approve the amnesty law tomorrow and that the repressive information laws will be annulled during the week.

Both the government and the opposition have accepted the idea of holding a plebiscite to decide the country's future, but apparently Somoza refuses to resign if [words indistinct]. One of the opposition leaders has indicated, nonetheless, that the demand for Somoza not only to resign if defeated in the elections but also for him and his relatives to leave the country has not been abandoned. Nor have we abandoned our demand that General Somoza and his relatives who hold military posts leave the country during the plebiscite, [Alfonso] Robelo reiterated.

STATE OF SIEGE LIFTED; MANY PRISONERS FREED

PA122032Y Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0125 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Managua, 11 Dec (LATIN)--The military courts that were trying civilians in connection with September's armed revolt were automatically dissolved today following the lifting of the stage of siege. A large number of prisoners regained their freedom while others were sent to the civil courts.

A total of 45 persons were released in Managua alone, including Elias Alfredo Cesar, administrator of the San Antonio sugar mill, who had been in jail since 9 September.

The National Guard announced that a military court investigating Col Bernardino Larios and other militarymen on charges of conspiracy will continue to function "because it operates under the military code." Notwithstanding, Eduardo Roman, the civilian lawyer defending Larios, said today that if an amnesty is decreed in the next few days Larios would have to be set free because he is charged with conspiracy, a political crime, and the amnesty applies to both civilians and militarymen.

Managua Police Release 66 Prisoners

PA121409Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0345 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Text] A total of 66 prisoners were released today at the police headquarters, some after serving their sentences and others due to the amnesty. These prisoners were being tried or investigated for disrupting public order, throwing bombs and distributing subversive pamphlets.

Managua police commander Col Nicolas Valle Salinas issued the release orders and the prisoners left shortly before noon. On Saturday, 11 other prisoners were released. All of the freed prisoners, most of them youths, were being held in the various Managua police posts.

NATIONAL GUARD COMMUNIQUE ON CLASH, DEATH OF PRIEST

PA121407Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0345 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Communique No 79 issued by Legal and Public Relations Office of Nicaraguan National Guard; date not given]

[Text] The Legal and Public Relations Office of the Nicaraguan National Guard notifies the citizenry that at 0600 today, 11 December 1978, members of a group of mercenaries belonging to the international brigade, which has its refuge in Costa Rica, invaded Nicaraguan territory in the place known as El Infierno, jurisdiction of Punta Orosi, Rivas Department. A National Guard patrol defending our sovereignty clashed with them and forced the invaders to flee into Costa Rican territory.

The National Guard patrol found that two invaders had been killed. One of them was a Spanish citizen, Gaspar Garcia Laviana, who was one of the principal leaders of the mercenary group. The other invader was not identified.

The National Guard reports that a member of the patrol was wounded and was taken to the military hospital. It said that it is continuing its pursuit mission.

[Signed] Col Aquiles Aranda Escobar, chief of the Legal and Public Relations Office of the Nicaraguan National Guard

Use of Foreign Arms Cited

PA130152Y Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2355 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Rivas, Nicaragua--Modern and very sophiscated weapons, which are very difficult or almost impossible to buy on the black market, were used by members of the mercenary group which recently entered Nicaragua. They were members of the international brigade that clashed with National Guard patrols in the jurisdiction of Punta Orosi, Nicaragua.

Gaspar Garcia Laviana, a Spanish priest and commander of the brigade, and Luis Arroyo Ugarte and a youth from Rivas died in the struggle. They came from guerrilla camps located in the Costa Rican region of Santa Elena. The weapons they left behind as they fled included a 7.62 caliber Belgian machinegun, which can only be purchased by the armed forces of legitimately established governments.

The National Guard's intelligence office verified that this type of machinegun is included in the arsenals of the Venezuelan and Panamanian armies.

ATTACK ON DIRIAMBA MILITARY GARRISON REPORTED

PA121901Y Paris AFP in Spanish 1803 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpt] Managua, 12 Dec (AFP)--The Nicaraguan National Guard has announced that it repelled a Sandinist attack last night on a garrison in Diriamba, in southern Nicaragua, and that a guerrilla was killed during a clash on Monday in the region of Orosi near the border with Costa Rica. According to newspaper reports, the battle for the Diriamba military garrison lasted 2 hours. Young masked guerrillas withdrew and were pursued by soldiers with the support of an armored truck. The fighting continued through the city and at least three civilians were wounded, reports indicate.

FIRST GROUP OF POLITICAL PRISONERS LEAVES FOR MIAMI

PA122336Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2258 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Havana, 12 Dec (AFP)--A large number of former Cuban political prisoners and relatives left for Miami today to live in the United States. More than 100 relatives accompanied approximately 70 former prisoners, some of them recently released, to their new home.

The executive group of the Committee of 75, composed of distinguished Cuban exiles who signed an agreement with the Cuban Government last week, was also on the plane. The agreement provides for the release of 3,600 prisoners charged with political and related crimes at the rate of 400 per month and the implementation of visits among relatives who have been separated by exile, beginning in January 1979.

The first group of 400 political prisoners will be pardoned in the next few days but it is believed that only 150 or fewer want to live in the United States. The U.S. Department of Justice will provide priority immigration status in January for the prisoners pardoned after 1 August 1978 but continues to consider those released prior to that date as common immigrants.

The released prisoners are subject to a small monthly admission quota, which has caused irritation and criticism among the former prisoners, many of whom have waited years to enter the United States. The ones who left for Miami today had been "cleared" by a U.S. commission which interviewed them here in November.

COSTA RICAN LEGISLATORS MEET WITH LEADERS

FL122003Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Dec 78 FL

[Text] The 24 Costa Rican deputies who are visiting our country and Blas Roca, member of the PCC Politburo and president of the people's government National Assembly, this morning had an exchange of viewpoints at the Justice Ministry headquarters. National Assembly Vice President Raul Roa and other deputies and officials of our highest legislative organ attended the meeting. During the exchange Blas Roca gave the visitors much data on the historic background of our legislative organ and its most important future tasks. For their part, the Costa Rican deputies asked many questions of interest to them and reported on operations of the National Assembly in their country.

Earlier, the 24 Costa Rican National Assembly deputies who had arrived in our country yesterday afternoon visited the Havana City museum. Blas Roca, member of the PCC Politburo and president of the people's government National Assembly; Raul Roa, vice president of our chief legislative organ; and Central Committee members Nicolas Guillen, Faustino Perez, Sixto Batista and Oscar Fernandez Mell accompanied the distinguished visitors. Others present included officials of the Foreign Ministry and America Department of the PCC Central Committee. During the tour of the Havana museum the Costa Rican deputies were hosted by museum director Eusebio Leal. At the conclusion of the tour Blas Roca greeted the visitors as well as Costa Rican deputy (Hubert Rojas). [as heard]

Further Details

FL130122Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Dec 78 FL

[Excerpt] In the afternoon the Costa Rican legislators visited the national art school in Cubanacan and the Cuban Institute of Friendship With Peoples [ICAP], where we get this report by Carmen Caaminas:

[Begin Caaminas recording] At the higher art institute the Costa Rican legislators were received by (Sonia Almanza), rector of the institute, and afterwards the Costa Rican deputies were received at the ICAP by Rene Rodriguez, president of that institution and deputy to the people's government National Assembly, and Francisco Pi Vidal, of the secretariat of Movement for Peace and Sovereignty of people. [end recording].

AALAPSO COMMUNIQUE REJECTS CAMP DAVID ACCORDS

FL121503Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1424 GMT 12 Dec 78 FL

[Text] In Havana City, the Afro-Asian Latin American People's Solidarity Organization [AALAPSO] has issued a communique repudiating the Camp David accords. The members of the AALAPSO secretariat and board of observers approved the document condemning Egyptian President As-Sadat's betrayal and those governments applauding such surrender. The communique notes the agreements adopted in the Arab peoples' conference, which was held last November in Damascus, Syria, and which distinguished itself for the unity demonstrated by the democratic forces and national liberation movements in support of the Arab peoples and the Palestinian cause.

The AALAPSO document repudiating the Camp David accords also hails the position adopted by the countries of the Steadfastness Front.

LABOR CONGRESS IN ARMS ANNIVERSARY OBSERVED

FL082331Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2232 GMT 8 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Antonio Enrique Lusson, member of the PCC Central Committee and minister of transportation, today chaired an event in Mayari Arriba to mark the 20th anniversary of the first labor congress in arms, which was held in that area of Santiago de Cuba in 1958. Forty of the 48 delegates who participated in that historic event were present at today's event.

Rafael Gonzalez Marino, who acted as president of the first labor congress in arms, was also elected president of today's event. Antonio Torres, also known as Nico, who was head of the labor bureau in arms at the second front during the war of liberation, made a speech in which he recalled the days when the working class met there to ratify its firm union with the rebel army.

Nico Torres recalled the martyrs of the Cuban working class, making special reference to Lazaro Pena and unforgettable Frank Pais. Torres also noted that the working class had contributed numerous combatants to the ranks of the rebel army, had efficiently supplied foodstuffs to the combatants and had supported the military actions during the war of liberation.

Like we did 20 years ago when we fulfilled with combativeness and determination all orders of the rebel army, today we reiterate our revolutionary faith and say: For whatever, wherever and whichever, Commander in Chief we are at your command. Also presiding at the event were Carlos Sarabia, member of the Santiago de Cuba party executive bureau, Ricardo Martinez, first secretary of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers in the province, and (Sigifeldo) Ramirez, president of the provincial National Association of Small Farmers, as well as other leaders.

Congress Closes

FL112301Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 11 Dec 78 FL

[Text] The national event commemorating the 20th anniversary of the 1st labor congress in arms was held in the Oriente theater in Santiago de Cuba, presided over by Antonio Perez Herrero, member of the PCC Central Committee secretariat. Sixty participants in the historical event received certificates stating that they were present at the 1st labor congress in arms. The closing remarks, made by Roberto Veiga, secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers (CTC), pointed out the difficulties and dangers which had to be faced by those who 20 years ago took part in the 1st labor congress in arms.

PORTUGUESE DELEGATION VISITS CTC HEADQUARTERS

FL091919Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 9 Dec 78 FL

[Text] A delegation from the Portuguese inter-trade union headed by Armando Texeira, general coordinator of the executive bureau of the General Confederation of Portuguese Workers, has visited the Central Organization of Cuban Workers [CTC] headquarters. The delegation was received by Francisco Travieso, member of the CTC executive secretariat. The meeting dealt with exchanging experiences on trade union work and on activities of the 14th [CTC] Congress at which the Portuguese delegation was a guest.

ROBERTO VEIGA RECEIVES BOLIVIAN LABOR LEADER

FL081258Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1230 GMT 8 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Roberto Veiga, member of the PCC Central Committee and Council of State and secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Workers [CTC], has received at CTC headquarters Simon Reyes, secretary of relations [as heard] of the Bolivian miners federation, who is visiting Cuba.

Various matters related to the status of the labor movement in Bolivia, resolutions adopted at the recently concluded 14th CTC Congress and the Latin American labor movement were discussed at the meeting.

CTC secretariat member Jesus Escandel and Antonio Lopez Lama, chief of the CTC international department's America department, attended the meeting.

FIDEL, RAUL CASTRO ATTEND IRAQI EMBASSY RECEPTION

FL121207Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 12 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, and Army Gen Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC and minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces [FAR], have attended a reception given in honor of the Iraqi military delegation headed by Brig Gen (Tareq Shukri). General (Shukri), director general of Iraq's armed forces troop training, has visited our country at the invitation of the FAR minister.

Attending the reception hosted by that fraternal country's ambassador to Cuba, Anwar Sabri (Dur al-Rasag), were other FAR generals and officers.

FORTHCOMING ARRIVAL OF IRAQI LEADER ANNOUNCED

FL131203Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1145 GMT 13 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Saddam Husayn al-Tikriti, vice chairman of Iraq's Revolutionary Command Council and vice secretary general of the Arab Ba'th Socialist Party national command, will arrive this afternoon in our country. The Iraqi leader is traveling to Cuba accompanied by a high-level delegation at the invitation of Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, first secretary of the PCC and president of the Councils of State and Ministers.

A warm welcome will be accorded the distinguished visitor by the residents of Havana City on behalf of all our people, both at the Jose Marti air terminal and on different avenues of the capital. The welcoming ceremony will be carried by Cuban radio and television and the international frequencies of Radio Havana Cuba.

AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION DISCUSSED WITH PHILIPPINE MINISTER

FL122014Y Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Dec 78 FL

[Text] The Philippine delegation that is visiting our country headed by Arturo Tanco, minister of agriculture and president of the World Food Council, has exchanged experiences with representatives of the Cuban Agriculture Ministry. Rafael Francia Mestre, minister of agriculture and member of the PCC Central Committee, attended the meeting.

During the meeting the two sides agreed to establish scientific and technical cooperation in livestock, rice, citrus and other crops. Such cooperation would be based on exchanges of genetic material, documents and technical information. They also agreed that it would be appropriate to exchange missions for the purpose of identifying interests in order to establish such cooperation. Cuban Ambassador to the Philippines Jose Arteaga attended the meeting.

CARLOS RAFAEL RODRIGUEZ ARRIVES IN MOSCOW

FL121141Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 12 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the PCC Politburo and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has arrived in Moscow, where he was met at the airport by Konstantin F. Katushev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Meets With Kosygin

FL122224Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2210 GMT 12 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has received Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Cuban Councils of State and Ministers, in the Kremlin. At the meeting which took place in a constructive and friendly atmosphere they exchanged opinions on Cuban-Soviet cooperation.

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE DELEGATION TOURS CITY OF CAMAGUEY

FL112149Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2010 GMT 11 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Amelia Pinto da Costa, wife of the president of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe and head of the Red Cross in that country, has ended a visit to the city of Camaguey. The delegation was accompanied by (Maria Alvarez Barbossy), who is in charge of the training and culture department of the Sao Tome women's organization. The two leaders had a fraternal meeting with youth of that fraternal African country who are studying in Camaguey Province. (Gilberto Jardines), director of the Octavio de la Concepcion y de la Pedraja polytechnic health institute, accompanied the visitors on their tour of the installation, explaining the characteristics of the unit, which has over 800 students divided into 14 specialties. The Sao Tome delegation was also accompanied by (Manuel Cuellar), member of the provincial party in Camaguey.

SOVIET STATISTICS OFFICIAL TOURS CIENFUEGOS PROVINCE

FL091647Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1612 GMT 9 Dec 78 FL

[Text] As part of the tour of the provincial delegations of the [Cuban] State Committee for Statistics, Igor Pagosov, deputy chairman of the USSR central statistical administration, has arrived in the city of Cienfuegos. The distinguished visitor arrived in Cuba several days ago in response to an invitation from Fidel Vasco Gonzalez, minister-president of the State Committee for Statistics, Pagosov wished Cienfuegos statistics workers success and pointed out that this important activity is a loyal bastion which strengthens the work done by the party, state and people's government. The Soviet delegation will remain in this province through Sunday and will tour the nitrogen fertilizer plant, the Cienfuegos fishing port and the Escambray dairy complex in Cumanayagua [municipality].

SRV AGRICULTURE OFFICIAL'S ACTIVITIES REPORTED

FL121739Y Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 12 Dec 78 FL

[Text] Nghiem Xuan Yem, minister of agriculture [title as heard] of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, and the delegation accompanying him have visited the Reinaldo Gonzalez Galaimena shipyards in the port of Havana. Pedro Beltran Fernandez, director of the work center, reported to the visitors on the accomplishments of the 245 workers of that center, who manufacture parts needed for building fishing vessels.

Nghiem Xuan Yem was given a warm welcome by the workers. He held talks with political and administrative leaders of the unit, during which he stated his visit to Cuba is aimed at strengthening the indestructible ties of friendship between the two countries.

BRIEFS

ADDITIONAL FOOD ALLOCATION--An additional allocation to the present quotas of foodstuffs will be made in the second half of this month in all provinces of the country, on this single occasion. This additional offer will be at the usual price of the foodstuffs; it will be distributed in the following way: Each consumer will be offered half a pound of rice, one quarter pound of grain (granso) and an equal measure of fat. A small tin of condiments (sofrito), will be offered each family group. At the same time vegetables and preserves will be offered, in addition to vegetables with meat and other products, with the choice and quantity depending on what is available in each province. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Dec 78 FL]

BRAZIL

MORE LOANS RECEIVED FOR NUCLEAR PROJECTS

PY130203Y Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 12 Dec 78 p 6 PY

[From O ESTADO's Rio de Janeiro office]

[Text] The respective contracts for two loans totaling DM 35.7 million (approximately $18.5 million) granted by FRG credit institutions to the Brazilian Nuclear Corporations [NUCLEBRAS] were signed last Sunday in Frankfurt. These loans are earmarked for financing 85 percent of the cost of engineering services contracted with the FRG enterprise (Uhde GMBH) for the construction of the uranium reprocessing plant established in the Brazilian-FRG nuclear agreement. This was the main target of the pressure exerted by the United States against the signing of the agreement, since the Americans did not want Brazil to reprocess its own fuel. The contracts signed by NUCLEBRAS with (Acha Ausfuhrkredit GMBH) and (Kreditanstalt fur Wiederaufbau) each amount to DM 17.850 million. Brazil was represented at the signing ceremony by Jorge de Carvalho e Silva, the Brazilian ambassador to the FRG; and by Hercules Eduardo Dutra, financial and commercial director of NUCLEBRAS. NUCLEBRAS will sign another loan contract today in Luxembourg totaling $75 million with a consortium of banks led by the Compagnie Luxembourgeoise de la Dresdner Bank--Dresdner Bank International.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

PRESIDENT GUZMAN-PRD DIFFERENCES SAID SETTLED

PA121725Y Madrid EFE in Spanish 0255 GMT 12 Dec 78 PA

[Excerpts] Santo Domingo, 11 Dec (EFE)--The national executive committee of the Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD) today delivered a document to President Antonio Guzman voicing its lifetime support [as received] for his administration, thus settling a number of differences between the party and the president. The document, delivered by the president and secretary general of the party, Dr Salvador Jorge Blanco and Dr Jose Francisco Pena Gomez, states that the PRD "will defend the government with dignity and integrity to the end." "We want to voice our support and appreciation for the adequate government work which you are effecting," the communique says. Covert differences that President Guzman and Vice President Jacobo Majluta had been having with party President Jorge Blanco and even with party leader Pena Gomez surfaced in recent weeks, but the president explained on Thursday that nothing and no one will estrange him from his party. President Guzman thanked the leaders who visited him and said he would do all he could to please the party.

HAITI

MINISTER SAYS DEMOCRATIZATION PROCESS TO CONTINUE

PA112209Y Paris AFP in Spanish 2124 GMT 11 Dec 78 PA

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 11 Dec (AFP)--Haitian Foreign Minister Gerard Dorcely reaffirmed on Sunday that "the liberalization and democratization process" in Haiti will continue. The minister made this statement on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Dorcely stated that "nothing should force a people to adopt somebody else's culture and nothing gives any nation the right to impose its culture." The minister also criticized the refusal to abide by "the charter on the economic rights and obligations of the states." This is the first time that an anniversary of the human rights declaration has been celebrated in Haiti. The diplomatic corps accredited to Port-au-Prince was present.